

MINUTES

UTAH SOCIAL WORK BOARD MEETING

December 4, 2008

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 9:00 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 9:05 A.M.

ADJOURNED: 3:13 P.M.

Bureau Manager:

Rich Oborn

Board Secretary:

Lee Avery

Board Members Present:

Tammer M. Attallah, Chairperson

Jean V. McAfee

Mark de St. Aubin

Dennis R. Frandsen

Patsy Smith

Andrew Johnston

Board Members Absent:

Guests:

Emily Bleyl, NASW, Utah Chapter

Elise Hutchings, NASW, Utah Chapter

DOPL Staff Present:

F. David Stanley, Division Director

Wayne Holman, Chief License/Invest. Manager

Kent Barnes, Compliance Manager

Ronda Trujillo, Compliance Specialist

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS: MINUTES:

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Board reviewed the minutes for November 6, 2008. Mr. Frandsen motioned to approve the minutes with changes, seconded by Ms. McAfee. The motion carried unanimously.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:

Ronda Trujillo, Compliance Specialist

#1. David Wilkes is not in compliance. His psychologist's resume was due November 20, 2008. He renewed his license and made a payment on his fine. The Division received his supervisor's resume

and some continuing education certificates for the Board to review.

Discussion:

He will be non compliant if he does not bring his psychological evaluation to this interview. The Board expressed some concerns regarding who he is obtaining his psychological evaluation from.

#2. Theresa Schubach is in compliance. The Division received her supervisor report for November 16, 2008; however, her last one was submitted on July 31, 2008. Her supervisor, Ms. Prince, is combining two (2), three (3) and four (4) months on one report. These reports should be submitted by the 20th of each month. The Division received her therapy report.

Discussion

Remind her that the reports need to be turned in monthly. The concern is the frequency of the reports. The Division is receiving them in two (2) or three (3) month intervals instead of monthly.

#3. William Green is in compliance. He is current on reports from his supervisor. The Division received a vitae from his therapist, Paul Peterson. All additional continuing education is completed.

Discussion:

The Board expressed concern regarding letting someone who is on probation supervise. The Board noted that Mr. Green has been in compliance for the past six (6) months. The Board reviewed the vitae for Paul Peterson and questioned if the therapy will be done face to face or online.

#4. Garison Jeppesen is in compliance. The Division received the vitae from his therapist, Jerry Buie. Mr. Buie was approved as Mr. Jeppesen's therapist. Mr. Jeppesen was advised of the approval. The Division received his supervisor report.

Discussion:

The Board briefly talked about how well Mr. Jeppesen is doing.

#5. Fredrick Carlson is in compliance. The Division received his employer and supervisor report. Mr. Carlson has been in compliance. Will the Board consider moving his meetings with the Board to quarterly?

Discussion:

The Board briefly discussed moving his meetings to quarterly. The Board wanted to talk with Mr. Carlson before making a decision.

#6. Enrique Velasquez is in compliance if he brings his employer report.

Discussion:

The Board reviewed an e-mail stating his employer has cut back on work hours. The Board decided to check with Mr. Velasquez to see if he intends to work in this field and work through his probation.

#7. Kristine Plummer is in compliance. The Division received her supervisor/employer report from Dennis Ashton and Linda Tuttle. Ms. Plummer has been consistently in compliance. She has submitted a letter requesting early termination. The Division received a letter from her supervisor supporting early termination.

Discussion:

Ms. Plummer has been on probation for one (1) year. The Board reviewed Ms. Plummer's letter. The Board expressed concerns regarding letting Ms. Plummer off probation early just because she might retire in one (1) year. The Board noted that Ms. Plummer has met with the Board four (4) times.

APPOINTMENTS:

Mr. David Wilkes, Probation Interview

Mr. Wilkes failed to keep his appointment with the Board. **Mr. Wilkes is not in compliance with his stipulation.**

Theresa Schubach, Probation Interview

Ms. Schubach presented herself to the Board. Ms. Smith conducted the interview. The Board confirmed with Ms. Schubach that all of her reports are due quarterly, by the twentieth (20th) of the month. Ms. Trujillo gave Ms. Schubach a new form for her therapy reports. Ms. Schubach stated that she is very

aware of how and why she is before the Board. She is aware of the feelings and boundaries she crossed. Ms. Schubach stated that she attended the workshops and found them to be very helpful. The Board asked to see Ms. Schubach on March 5, 2009. **Ms. Schubach is in compliance with her stipulation.**

Discussion:

Mr. Stanley stated that it is appropriate to close the meeting with personal topics such as when probationer's medications are discussed.

Mr. Fredrick Carlson, Probation Interview

Mr. Carlson presented himself to the Board. Mr. Frandsen conducted the interview. Mr. Carlson advised the Board that he has been busy working. The Board noted that his reports are all positive. He has been dependable, he works well with other staff members, and people enjoy working with him. Mr. Carlson stated that he will have the ethics class done and he is working on the ethics essay. Mr. Carlson stated that he has completed eight (8) hours of continuing education. The Board noted that Mr. Carlson's reports are due by the twentieth (20th) of each month. The Board asked Mr. Carlson to meet with it quarterly. The Board asked to see Mr. Carlson on March 5, 2009. **Mr. Carlson is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Mr. William Green, Probation Interview

Interview taken out of order on the agenda:

Mr. Green presented himself to the Board. Mr. Holman was introduced to Mr. Green. Mr. Green stated that his therapist has him doing some cognitive behavioral and journaling assignments. This has helped him to become more aware of his strengths and weaknesses. Mr. Green stated that things were going well. He has established a good support system. Mr. Green stated that he is moving to an office in Bountiful. This is an office within an office. He will see his own clients and do some consulting. He reviews some sessions with Mr. Dredge. Mr. Green stated that his therapy with Mr. Peterson is face to face. The Board advised Mr. Green that because: (1) he has not held his LCSW license for more than two years; and (2) his license is currently not in good standing, he cannot be a CSW supervisor at this time. Mr. Green can, however, supervise students or

substance abuse counselors if approved by the Board and Division to do so. The Board requested Mr. Green to submit a statement that provides the following information regarding any future requests to supervise clinically:

- #1. Number of students or substance abuse counselors;
- #2. Type of setting;
- #3. Oversight arrangements;
- #4. How will students be informed regarding his license probation status;
- #5. A formalized plan;
- #6. Written support from his therapist; and
- #7. Written support from his supervisor.

Mr. Frandsen motioned to accept Paul Peterson as Mr. Green's therapist, seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion carried unanimously. The Board noted that Mr. Green has completed his continuing education. The Board advised Mr. Green he will need to submit a letter stating he is self-employed. This letter will need to be submitted one time. The Board advised Mr. Green that in January 2009 it would consider moving his appointments with the Board to quarterly. The Board asked to see Mr. Green on January 8, 2009.

Mr. Green is in compliance with his stipulation.

Discussion:

The Board briefly discussed concerns regarding Mr. Green supervising students. The Board stated that if he were approved to supervise students, the university program director and the students would need to be advised of the probation status of Mr. Green's license.

Mr. Garrison Jeppesen, Probation Interview

Mr. Jeppesen presented himself to the Board. Mr. de St. Aubin recused himself from this discussion. Ms. McAfee conducted the interview. Ms. McAfee noted that the Division received the vitae from Gary Buie and that Mr. Buie is approved as Mr. Jeppesen's therapist. Mr. Jeppesen stated that he has completed one of the two essays and is working on the other one. The Board reminded Mr. Jeppesen that both essays would need to be submitted to the Division by February 2009. Mr. Jeppesen stated that he continues to work at Highland Ridge Hospital. The Board is still receiving monthly reports and may change this to quarterly at the next board meeting. The Board asked to see Mr. Jeppesen on March 5, 2009.

Mr. Jeppesen is in compliance with his stipulation.

Enrique Velasquez, Probation Interview

Mr. Velasquez presented himself to the Board. Mr. Frandsen conducted the interview. Mr. Velasquez gave the Board his supervisor report. Mr. Velasquez advised the Board that currently he is working only two (2) hours a week. He wants to stay at Clinical Consultants; however, he may have to seek employment somewhere else if his clinical hours are not increased. They have asked him to obtain some additional training in domestic abuse. Mr. Velasquez stated that he continues teaching "Intro to Social Work Course" and "Dynamics to Mental Disorder" at Salt Lake Community College. He received an offer to teach at Argosy University in the Spring of 2009. Mr. Velasquez stated that he is providing group therapy once a week and checks in with his supervisor afterwards. The Board recommended that Mr. Velasquez meet with his supervisor for thirty (30) minutes a month and have his supervisor reports submitted quarterly. The Board asked Mr. Velasquez to advise the Board should his employment change. His employer reports are also due quarterly. The Board asked to see Mr. Velasquez on February 5, 2009. **Mr. Velasquez is in compliance with his stipulation.**

Kristine Plummer, Probation Interview

Ms. Poe attended Ms. Plummer's interview with the Board. Ms. Plummer presented herself to the Board. Ms. Plummer stated that things have been going well and that she is asking her probation be terminated early. Ms. Plummer stated that she has completed all of the requirements as stated in the stipulation and has been in compliance. Ms. Plummer advised the Board that she has learned a lot during her probation. She has completed the ethical hours and additional continuing education. The Board reviewed the letters from her supervisor and therapist recommending Ms. Plummer be released from her probation early. After a brief discussion, Mr. Frandsen motioned to release Ms. Plummer from her probation, seconded by Mr. de St. Aubin. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion:

The Board briefly discussed the education

Aimee Duvall, Social Service Worker,
Application Review

requirements for the social work profession.

Ms. Duvall presented herself to the Board. Mr. Attallah advised Ms. Duvall that the Board has reviewed her letter and application. Ms. Duvall advised the Board that she received a letter from the Division stating she is deficient in specific areas of her education to qualify for a Utah Social Service Worker license. Ms. Duvall stated that she compared the course requirements as stated in the letter to the education she has already received and she believes they are the same. Ms. Duvall advised the Board that she has passed the ASWB bachelor's level exam. After talking with Ms. Duvall the Board determined that she did not meet license requirements through the fourth (4th) tier in the statute. The Board looked at the third (3rd) tier in the licensing statute. Ms. Duvall submitted documentation showing that she has completed over two thousand (2,000) hours of supervised hours. Mr. Johnston motioned to approve Ms. Duvall's application for licensure based on her meeting tier three (3) requirements. Ms. Duvall has bachelor's degree in criminal justice, a minor in sociology, and she has completed additional coursework including the following:

Introduction to Sociology;
Human Development Through Life Span;
Marriage and Family;
Sociology Theory;
Modern Social Problems;
Sociology of Modern Culture;
Race and Ethnic Relations;
Principles of Effective Parenting;

The motion was seconded by Mr. Frandsen. There was no further discussion. The motion carried with Ms. Smith abstaining. The Board noted that the approval of Ms. Duvall's education credentials was a unique case.

National Association of Social Workers,
(NASW) Utah Chapter, Emily Bleyl, proposed
changes to Social Worker Licensing Act

Ms. Emily Bleyl, and Ms. Elise Hutchings, NASW representatives presented themselves to the Board. Ms. Bleyl advised the Board that the NASW is moving forward to open the Social Work Practice Act in 2010. Ms. Bleyl reviewed the following proposed changes: #1. Refining the scope of practice language; #2. ASWB exam accommodations for individuals

who have English as their second language (ESL) such as extra time. Mr. Oborn stated that currently state law classifies Utah as an 'English Only' state. As such, DOPL has a policy with all license exams not allowing extra time for ESL applicants. Mr. Oborn advised the Board that the testing vendor is concerned with the integrity of the exams being issued in other languages. Mr. Oborn stated that Utah laws prohibit allowing extra time for anything other than those issues falling under the ADA guidelines. Mr. Johnston stated that ASWB recognizes this is a problem; however, it did not have enough information to make any suggestions to the states. Mr. Johnston stated that the ASWB administrators stated they have created a committee to research this concern. #3. Adding a continuing education requirement that is specific for social service workers scope of practice, and to include law and ethics. #4. Make the deadline to complete continuing education correlate with the license renewal cycle. #5. Consolidate tiers II and III of the SSW educational requirement and create an SSW extern license. Tier 1 in the statute would remain unchanged. #6. A supervision course/certification will be administered through NASW. The Board and Ms. Bleyl talked about the Division's concerns in adding an extern license to the Social Workers practice act. Mr. Oborn suggested that Ms. Bleyl clean up the requirements for the intern license by making passing the ASWB exam the only deficiency allowed for SSW intern licenses and increase the responsibilities of the supervisor. Mr. Oborn stated that the Division can only regulate licensed professionals. The Division will deal with unlicensed people by ordering them to cease and desist and prosecuting them criminally if needed. The Board discussed several options. Ms. Bleyl stated that the proposed changes are a work in progress. She encouraged the Board to contact her with suggestions.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

ASWB Conference Report from Andrew Johnston

Taken out of Order on the Agenda:

Mr. Johnston attended the ASWB conference and reviewed with the Board several areas of concern, including the pass/fail rate on the ASWB exam. Mr. Johnston stated that some agencies allow a dictionary

to help foreign applicants while other states have an oral portion on the exam. The Board noted that all documentation for insurance reimbursement is required to be in English. Mr. Johnston stated that ASWB is still encouraging all states to pre-approve all applicants to take the ASWB exam.

Discussion not on the agenda.

The Board briefly discussed some states having term limits for Board appointments and some states are having life time commitments. Mr. Oborn noted that Utah's Board appointments are for two (2) terms, four (4) years each and when the Board member is off the Board for two (2) years the Board member can reapply. The Board briefly discussed how some schools teach for the exam and some schools teach for competency and then offer a test prep course.

The Board reviewed the Governor's ethics policy for the executive agencies and employees.

APPLICATIONS:
NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

None at this time
January 8, 2009

2009 Board Meetings Tentatively Scheduled

January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn at 3:13 P.M.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

January 8, 2009
Date Approved

(ss) Tammer Attallah
Tammer Attallah, Chairperson, Utah Social Work
Licensing Board

December 31, 2008
Date Approved

(ss) Richard Oborn
Richard Oborn, Bureau Manager, Division of
Occupational & Professional Licensing